

# **Think Link**

## **An Educational Partnership between Lake Orion Community Schools and Orion Township Public Library**

### **Vision**

The partnership between the Orion Township Public Library (OTPL) and Lake Orion Community Schools (LOCS) will expand the educational opportunities and enhance the academic achievement of each student. As partners in education, we will work collaboratively by combining our strengths and resources to invest in each student's future and accomplish, together, results that we could not otherwise readily achieve.

### **Mission**

To ensure every Lake Orion Community School student has and uses an Orion Township Library card to borrow materials and access databases.

To develop programs, activities, and events for all Orion Township students and their families that encourage reading, advocate the completion of school assignments, promote scholarship, and provide the best possible chance of overall academic success.

## **Orion Township Public Library Objectives**

*Orion Township Public Library will:*

1. Register LOCS students for library cards with the assistance of faculty and staff.
2. Provide online research database access.
3. Conduct programs for students at LOCS, OTPL, and virtually to support curriculum, and promote OTPL resources, for example storytimes, booktalks, and MakerFairs.
4. Provide specific material for checkout that promotes essential reading practices as defined by the Michigan Department of Education.
5. Organize and host 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Battle of the Books program. Co-sponsor Middle School Battle of the Books program.
6. Promote the Battle of the Books and reading programs to students and provide promotional materials to Media Specialists.
7. Communicate information about OTPL for school, via Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning.
8. Designate a library staff member liaison to elementary and secondary schools to coordinate the partnership.
9. Host and/or participate in LOCS staff development sessions, information sessions, and social events for LOCS staff and parents to build awareness and knowledge of the resources of OTPL. These activities include but are not limited to PTOs, PD days, Parent University with book club, and district department chair meetings.
10. Maintain a link on the OTPL website to the LOCS website.
11. LOHS and middle schools will designate media centers as pick-up/drop off locations for student/teacher held items. Middle school librarians will aid students to place holds on OTPL items with their own cards, pick them up at the media center, and return them to the media centers. Teen Librarian will coordinate delivery and pick up of materials with secondary school librarians on a weekly basis.
12. OTPL Youth department liaison will prepare elementary school teacher requests and coordinate drop off/pickup.

13. Teen librarian coordinates monthly Lit lunch and take and make kits with middle school media specialists. Pick up for take and make kits will be at the LO middle schools.
14. OTPL will sign the Public Library Connect contract so students who access their Sora account through school will also have direct access to the Libby database through OTPL.

## **Lake Orion Community Schools Objectives**

*Lake Orion Community Schools will:*

1. Distribute library card registration materials and information through Kindergarten and New Student registration packets, Media Specialists, School site visits, and field trips to the library.
2. Collect and forward completed library card registration forms to OTPL.
3. Share information on school, curriculum, extracurricular projects, and homework assignments to assist the library in meeting the information needs of students and their parents.
4. Disseminate information with faculty, students, and parents about OTPL programs, databases, and online resources through faculty and parent newsletters.
5. Feature OTPL collections, programs, events, and activities in school, and principal newsletters.
6. Add a bus stop at OTPL on select dates for students attending after school programs, including GAP programs and ThinkLink after school.
7. Provide a liaison at each school to coordinate the partnership.
8. Co-sponsor Middle School Battle of the Books program. Promote and support 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Battle of the Books program.
9. Invite OTPL to participate in staff development and parent events, including but not limited to PTOs, PD days, Parent University with book club, and district department chair meetings.
10. Maintain a link on the LOCS web site and school websites to the OTPL web site.
11. Middle/High School Media Specialists will guide students to OTPL catalog when they wish to place holds on OTPL materials.
12. Middle/High School Media Specialists will receive and distribute deliveries of student holds from OTPL and maintain a drop box for students to return OTPL materials.

13. Elementary staff will coordinate with the youth librarian liaison for collection of requested items.

We, the following, do fully agree to the Vision, Mission, and Objectives of the above stated partnership declaration on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024.

---

Danielle Bresett  
President  
Lake Orion Board of Education

---

Heidi Mercer  
Superintendent  
Lake Orion Community Schools



---

Drew Towlerton  
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning  
Lake Orion Community Schools

---

MaryAnne Thorndycraft  
President  
Board of Trustees  
Orion Township Public Library

---

Chase McMunn  
Director  
Orion Township Public Library

---

Ashley Lehman  
Head of Youth Services  
Orion Township Public Library